

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1-19. (canceled)

20. (currently amended) Multiple layer reinforced flexible hose comprising at least one first inner tubular first layer made of extruded plastic material, at least one second outer tubular second layer made of extruded plastic material, a tubular reinforcement made of a textile material interposed between said first and said second layer, said layers first and said second layer extending over substantially the entire length of said tubular reinforcement and being homogeneously joined in correspondence of their mutual contact surface so as to define a wall having an overall predetermined thickness, an end portion of said wall having an increased thickness along a longitudinal portion[[s]] of predetermined extension to thereby provide watertight sealing action with external connection organs, wherein said increased thickness is substantially constant along the whole extension of each said longitudinal portion and a non-linear, stepped increase with respect to the rest of the hose, said end portion with said increased thickness having a substantially constant outer diameter and a smooth and continuous outer surface without discontinuities over an entire length of said end portion.

21. (previously presented) Reinforced flexible hose according to claim 20 wherein said stepped increase is of substantially circular shape.

22. (previously presented) Reinforced flexible hose according to claim 20 wherein said stepped increase has a substantially short conical shape.

23. (previously presented) Reinforced flexible hose according to claim 20 wherein said increased thickness is only localized on said outer tubular layer.

24. (previously presented) Reinforced flexible hose according to claim 20 wherein said increased thickness is only localized on said inner tubular layer.

25. (currently amended) Reinforced flexible hose according to claim 20 wherein said increased thickness is localized on both said outer tubular second layer and said inner tubular first layer.

26. (currently amended) Reinforced flexible hose according to claim 20 wherein at least one of said first and said second ~~tubular~~ layer[[s are]] is colored with different pigmentations along their whole extension or along different parts thereof of its length to provide longitudinal portions of said layers with different colors.

27. (currently amended) Reinforced flexible hose according to claim 26 wherein said second layer is provided with a change of coloring and pigmentation and colorings are substantially uniform and they are differentiated in correspondence of the stepped thickness change of said longitudinal portions with predetermined extension increase to identify where the hose is to be cut.

28. (previously presented) Reinforced flexible hose according to claim 20 wherein said hose comprises one or more further inner, outer or middle tubular layers, made of plastic material, having technical and/or aesthetic functions.

29. (previously presented) Reinforced flexible hose according to claim 28 wherein said one or more further plastic material layers are chosen from the group comprising food compatible, anti-abrasives, UV shielding and ornamental films.

30. (previously presented) Multiple layer reinforced flexible hose comprising at least one first inner tubular first layer made of extruded plastic material, at least one second outer tubular second layer made of extruded plastic material, a tubular reinforcement made of a textile material interposed between said first and said second layer, said layers first and said second layer extending over substantially the entire length of said tubular reinforcement and being homogeneously joined in correspondence of their mutual contact surface so as to define a wall having an overall predetermined thickness, an end portion of said wall having an increased thickness along a longitudinal portion of predetermined extent to thereby provide watertight sealing action with external connection organs, said increased thickness being substantially constant along substantially the entire extent of said end portion, said end portion with said increased thickness having a substantially constant outer diameter and a smooth and continuous outer surface without discontinuities over an entire length of said end portion.

31. (previously presented) Reinforced flexible hose according to claim 30, wherein said increased thickness is only localized on said outer tubular layer.

32. (currently amended) Reinforced flexible hose according to claim 30, wherein said increased thickness is only localized on said inner tubular first layer.

33. (currently amended) Reinforced flexible hose according to claim 30, wherein said increased thickness is localized on both said outer tubular second layer and said inner tubular first layer.

34. (currently amended) Reinforced flexible hose according to claim 30, wherein said first and said second layer are colored with different pigmentations along their whole extensions or along parts thereof.

35. (currently amended) Reinforced flexible hose according to claim 34, wherein said pigmentations and colorings are substantially uniform and they are differentiated in correspondence of the stepped thickness change of said longitudinal portions with predetermined extension.

36. (previously presented) Reinforced flexible hose according to claim 30, wherein said hose comprises one or more further inner, outer or middle tubular layers, made of plastic material, having technical and/or aesthetic functions.

37. (previously presented) Reinforced flexible hose according to claim 36,

wherein said one or more further plastic material layers are chosen from the group comprising food compatible, anti-abrasives, UV shielding and ornamental films.